

4 Couples Vie to Adopt Utah's Crash Orphan

Feb 5-1947

Tribune Special

HEBER — Beanie Spotts, 2½-year-old orphan on an auto accident near Daniels Summit Jan. 5, played nonchalantly—and once or twice noisily—in a courtroom here Tuesday while attorneys opened legal proceedings which will determine his future home.

Beanie, or Guy Henry Spotts III, was destined to be well cared for regardless of the court's decision, it appeared, because the court received offers of adoption from his maternal grandparents, his paternal grandparents, a brother-in-law and a sister of his father and a brother-in-law and a sister of his mother.

Beanie's parents, Capt. and Mrs. Guy Henry Spotts Jr., were killed a few miles west of Daniel's Summit Jan. 5 when their car skidded on an icy section of highway, careened into an embankment and overturned several times.

Child Found Unhurt

Passing motorists found the child unhurt in the wrecked car, and he was brought to Heber and became the temporary ward of Joseph A. Olpin, Heber mortician, and Mrs. Olpin.

Litigants in the case which opened Tuesday included Mr. and Mrs. Guy H. Spotts Sr., Williamsport, Pa., paternal grandparents of Beanie; Mrs. Lucille Felin, Rock Springs, Wyo., school teacher, maternal grandmother of the child; Mr. and Mrs. Olpin, as temporary custodians of the child pending settlement of the case, and Judge Dean E. Terry and Mrs. Julia L. Bybee, probation officer of Third district juvenile court, Provo.

Mr. and Mrs. Spotts and Mrs. Felin indicated desire to adopt the child and rear him in their homes, and, in addition, the court was informed that brothers-in-law and sisters of Mr. and Mrs. Spotts would adopt the child "in event the court feels that life expectancy of either of the grandparents is not sufficient for the child's security."

Sister of Capt. Spotts

They are Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Sedam, Williamsport, and Dr. and Mrs. William M. Stansbury, Los Angeles, Cal. Mrs. Sedam is a sister of Capt. Spotts and Mrs. Stansbury, whose husband is a Los Angeles veterinarian, is a sister of Mrs. Spotts.

When the case opened, "Beanie" had the freedom of the courtroom, with Mr. Olpin seated in the doorway so that he could not leave.

However, his freedom suffered some restraint when the court

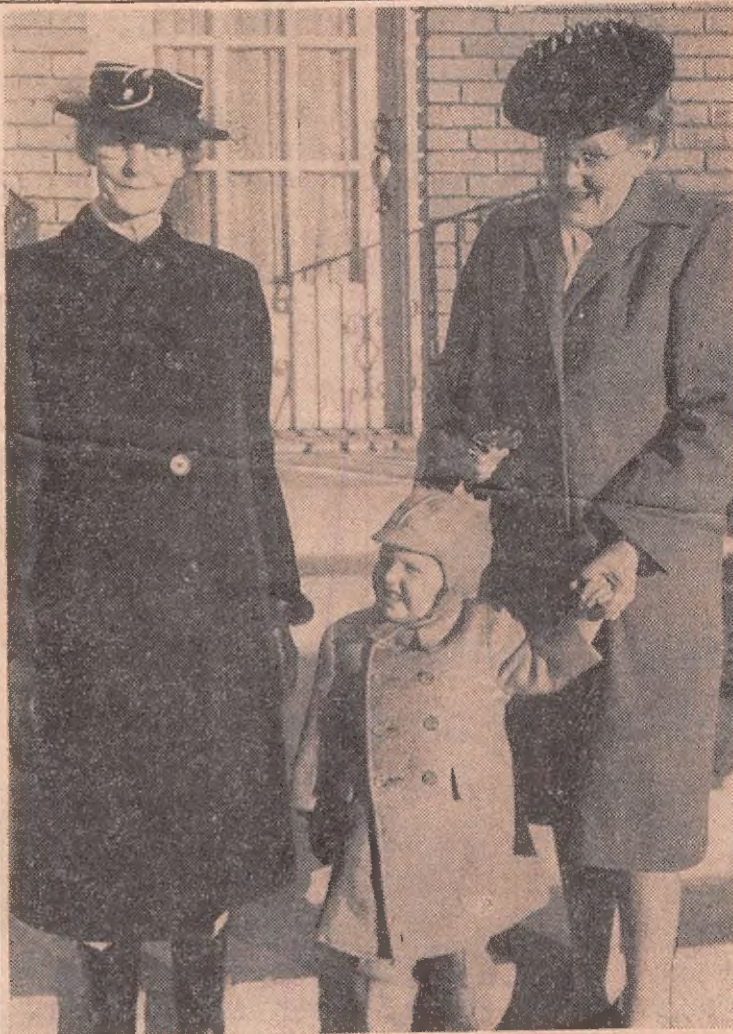


FIGURE IN CUSTODY STRUGGLE

Center of a legal custody case, Beanie Spotts, 2½-year-old child orphaned by an auto accident Jan. 5, poses near Wasatch county courthouse, Heber, with his grandmothers, Mrs. Guy Henry Spotts Sr., Williamsport, Pa., left; Mrs. Lucille Felin, Rock Springs, Wyo.

balliff was forced to restore order and finally Fourth District Judge William Stanley Dunford decreed that the legal case could proceed without necessity of "Beanie's" presence and the child left in company with children of Mr. and Mrs. Olpin.

As the court adjourned until 10 a.m. Wednesday, Mrs. Felin was in the witness stand. A widow whose husband died in 1926, she testified that she is a school teacher in Rock Springs, that she has property and estate sufficient to care for the child and that, if given custody of Beanie, she will give up teaching and devote the remainder of her life to rearing the child.

Judge Expresses Doubt

Before Mrs. Felin took the stand the judge expressed doubt concerning his jurisdiction in the matter.

In a strange argument of the which occupied a, George S. Bal-three-hour for Mr. and Mrs. lif, attend Joseph Severn Jones, Spofey for Mrs. Felin, successfully argued their contention that the court had jurisdiction in the case.

The case then proceeded as a hearing upon a writ of habeas corpus brought by Mrs. Felin to show cause why Mr. and Mrs. Olpin, at direction of the juvenile court, should continue to have custody of the child. Pending decision in the case, the court decreed that Mr. and Mrs. Olpin retain custody of Beanie.

Academy floor at the Wasatch Gunnison tangle on the Wasatch saurs, while North Sappete and to Price to meet the Carbon Dino- for Thursday, West swinging out Monroe, while Salina meets Wayne division, Richfield moving out to of contests in the South Sevier Wednesday's state finds a pair one substitution. contest where neither team made 32-28, on the Moab court, in a Moab turning back Fruit, Colo. A nonleague encounter found Toole.

spired Judge Memorial five, while Cyprus kept in the thick of the race with a 45-36 margin over

By BILL CLEGG

Face in Jordan Division

Grantsville, Bingham Set

In Prep Cage Loops

A testimonial dinner is planned for the world's fastest hitch-hiker, following this ride. 186 miles per hour. Baker was called guided his race over the flats at a speed of 150 miles per hour. "hepped-up" racer over the salt flats gram, Baker became a great race-car enthusiast and drove Ab Jenkins. While sports editor of The Tele- events record of 1969 pins, scored in nine games. ton, Baker still holds the city all- state's league competition. In addi- owner of one of the 13 perfect 300- cored in the state. Baker is the the highest pin averages ever re-

In the Summit division, Park night. victories over quintets in the lower half of the league Tuesday Face-setters in the Jordan and Summit divisions maintained their positions atop the league standings by hanging up expected Face-setters in the Jordan and Summit divisions maintained

City kept its record perfect with a 48-33 triumph over North Sum- mitted at Coalville, while Wasatch Miners with a hard-earned 32-29 verdict over Morgan. South Sum- mit retained third place by thump- ing winless South Rich, 50-29. Grantsville continued to dom- inate the Jordan sector, but the Cowboys were pulling leather be- fore they pulled away in the last four minutes to defeat Murray, 33-28. Bingham held second place, thanks to a 52-40 win over an in-

Frank K. Baker, sports writer and radio executive in Salt Lake City for the past 18 years and one of the top bowlers in the state's history, was appointed assistant secretary of the American Bowling Congress Tuesday, A B C Secy. Elmer Baum- garten announced through the Asso- ciated Press in Milwaukee. For the past two years, Baker has been director of personnel and pub- lic relations for station KBYL and city editor of the Salt Lake Telegram for 14 years. Baker will understudy Baumgar- ten until the latter retires sometime within the next year. Baumgarten was recently reelected to a five-year term but announced Tuesday that he did not plan to finish out his term. Baker differs for the new bowling

Baker Named Asst. Secretary Of American Bowling Unit

Frank K. Baker... Leaves Salt Lake position with A B C.



Favorites Rule Roost